

Minutes

City of Murchison City Council Meeting, held at City Hall June 14, 2022 at 6:00 pm. Those present include: Mayor Bryan Wilkins, council members Ken Baker, Alisa Griffis, Steve Kroll, and City Secretary Karen Kroll. Also in attendance were Cornelia Haynes, Buddy Crutchfield, Tammy Wilkins, Sandy Hoffmeyer, Darrel Seidel, Dana Joslin, Roddy Waites, Ann Boyles, Elliott Boyles, Doug McCreery, Lloyd Smith and Alan Prado. Also present was Scott McCurley from Athens Contractors.

After opening prayer by James Hardin, the meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Public Recognition:

Ann Boyles spoke about open records, open forum, ditch pulling.

Dana Joslin spoke about speed bumps.

June McClean spoke about bug spraying.

Roddy Waites thanked the city for the speed bumps on Third St.

Consent items:

1. Approval of the June 2022 City Council Meeting minutes
2. Approval of June bank/financial statements
3. Approval of June payment of bills.

Mayor Bryan Wilkins moves for motion to accept consent items. Motion made by Steve Kroll, seconded by Alisa Griffis and carried unanimously.

Water Report:

1. Discuss/Consider any new building permits:

None to discuss

2. Discuss/Consider EDC projects:

Mayor Bryan Wilkins stated that Frentress Engineering had donated the final plans and specifications for the baseball field. He stated that the city needed to ask the EDC for a grant for \$10,000 for the engineering and design services which would be done by a different engineering firm. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any questions or comments.

Mayor Bryan Wilkins moves for motion to for the city of Murchison to ask the EDC for a grant for the engineering and design services for the baseball field.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Alisa Griffis and carried unanimously

3. Discuss/Consider bids for boring under FM 773 to replace existing water line:

Mayor Bryan Wilkins stated to the council that there had been several bids received to bore under FM 773 to replace the existing casing for a new water line. He stated that this is necessary to be in compliance with TCEQ regulations to install a larger diameter water pipe. Two bids had been received for the job, first from 4M Construction for \$6345.00 and the second from Forney Directional for \$5510.00. Mayor Wilkins asked if the city council had any questions or comments after looking at both bids. After a brief discussion, the city council decided to accept the bid from Forney Directional.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to accept the bid from Forney Directional for \$5510.00 to drill under FM 773 to replace the existing casing. Motion made by Alisa Griffis, seconded by Steve Kroll and carried unanimously.

4. Discuss/Consider proposal from Athens Contractors to loop the water lines from Third St. to Murphy St.:

Mayor Bryan Wilkins asked Scott McCurley from Athens Contractors to explain to the city council why the water needed to be looped from Third St. to Murphy. Scott explained that the system had dead end lines and that it was not good for a water system as it causes several issues with stagnant water and brown water. He also explained that it is beneficial to have a complete looped system in order to avoid un-necessary water shut offs in case of an emergency. Mayor Wilkins noted that the proposal was for \$7900.00 but would not include asphalt if needed to patch the road. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any questions or comments on the proposal. After a short discussion, the city council decided it would be in the best interest of the city to accept the proposal to loop the water lines.

Mayor Bryan Wilkins moves for motion to accept the proposal from Athens Contractors for \$7900.00 to loop the water lines from Third Steet to Murphy.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Steve Kroll and unanimously carried.

5. Discuss/Consider proposal from Athens Contractors to loop the water lines from Cardinal St. to FM 773:

Mayor Bryan Wilkins again asked Scott McCurley to explain why the water system needed to be looped from Cardinal to FM 773. As he stated previously, the same reasons apply for all 3 water loop recommendations on the agenda. To prevent stagnant water and avoid unnecessary shut downs or loss of water in case of an emergency. Mayor Wilkins stated that Athens Contractors submitted a proposal of \$9100.00 and asked the city council if they had any questions or comments. After a brief discussion, the city council accepted the proposal.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to accept the proposal from Athens Contractors to tie in the water line from Cardinal St. to FM 773 in the amount of \$9100.00.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Steve Kroll and carried unanimously.

6. Discuss/Consider proposal from Athens Contractors to tie 8" water line at CR 3623 to 3" water line on Third St.:

Mayor Bryan Wilkins stated that Athens Contractors has also put in a proposal to tie the 8" water line from CR 3623 to the 3" water line on Third St. He stated that the proposal submitted was for the amount of \$5700.00. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any questions or comments about the proposal. After a brief discussion, the city council accepted the proposal.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to accept the proposal from Athens Contractors to tie the 8" line from CR 3623 to the 3" line on Third St.

Moton made by Alisa Griffs, seconded by Ken Baker and carried unanimously.

7. Discuss/Consider advertising to accept bids for new water line on CR 3623 – 1500' of 2" pipe:

Mayor Wilkins asked Scott McCurley to explain why the city needed to replace the water line on CR 3623. Scoot explained that the original water line that was installed is too small for the number of connections and it is a TCEQ violation at this point. He explained that currently only a 1 ½" line exists and it needs to be upgraded to a 2" line and there would be approximately 1500" of new line needed. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any questions or comments about the issue. After a brief discussion, the city council agreed that the lines needed to be replaced and that it should be put out for bidding.

Mayor Bryan Wilkins moves for motion to advertise for bids to replace approx. 1500" of existing water lines on CR 3623 to a 2" water line.

Motion made by Steve Kroll, seconded by Ken Baker and carried unanimously.

8. Discuss/Consider replacing sewer lines on Wren St and connecting to existing manhole, advertising and possible costs associated:

Mayor Bryan Wilkins discussed the need to replace the sewer lines on Wren St. Scott McCurley gave a report about the situation stating that the current lines run behind the houses and they are having issues with tree root invasion, lines cracking, poor joint connections. There have been several instances recently with sewage back-up into homes and not being able to flush toilets as needed. He stated that the new lines needed to be run in the street in front of the homes and connected to a new manhole. Scott estimated that the project would cost approx. \$60,000 to \$90,000 not including the street paving. He also stated that the lines have been band aided together and will not continue to work properly in the future. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any comments or questions. After a brief discussion, the city council decided to move forward with the initial process of putting together a bid package and advertising for the bids and discussing financial options to complete the project.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to move forward with the initial process of putting a bid package together, advertising for the project and looking at financial options.

Motion made by Alisa Griffis, seconded by Steve Kroll and carried unanimously.

9. Discuss/Consider having Rural Water Impact maintain the city website:

Mayor Wilkins discussed the need to have Rural Water Impact maintain the city website. City secretary Karen Kroll discussed that it would be beneficial for RWI to maintain the website as they are the current hosts. They would work together with the city secretary to upload document, images, post alerts, and any other postings that are necessary. The annual cost for a monthly service is \$468.00. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any questions or comments. After a brief discussion, the city council agreed to have Rural Water Maintain the city website.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to accept the proposal from Rural Water impact to maintain the city of Murchison's website.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Alisa Griffis and carried unanimously.

10. Discuss/Consider hiring a PRN (as needed) person to help the city secretary:

Mayor Wilkins discussed the need to hire a helper for the city secretary and had received an application for the position.

Mayor Wilkins announced the city council would be convening in closed session per Texas Government Code 551 on July 12, 2022 @ 6:55 pm to discuss the position.

Mayor Wilkins announce that the city council would be resuming its meeting on July 12, 2022 @ 7:00 pm.

Mayor Wilkins stated that the city had received an application from Angela Buss for the as needed position to help the city secretary. He asked the city council if they had any questions or comments after looking at the application. Council member Alisa Griffis stated that she thought the position should pay about \$10.00 and hour and several of the council members disagreed. After a brief discussion, the council members agreed to pay \$12.00 and hour and have a review after 90 days and also agreed to hire Angela Buss for the position.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to hire for the position at the rate of \$12.00 per hour with a review after 90 days.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Alisa Griffis and carried unanimously.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to hire Angela Buss for the position.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Alisa Griffis and carried unanimously.

11. Discuss/Consider forgiving higher water bills from estimations due to non-functioning water meters:

Mayor Wilkins asked Scott McCurley to explain the situation with the estimated water bills. Scott explained that the previous water contractor had not maintained the water meters properly and therefore the city was having to estimate water bills more often than necessary. Now that most of the water meters have been corrected, the correct amount of gallon usage if being reflected in some of the bills. The totals on the bills are extremely high because the residents who were being estimated were not actually paying for the correct gallons being used. He stated that the residents should not have to pay for the ineptitude of the previous contractor. Mayor Wilkins stated that he agreed with Scott and that the residents should not have to pay for the mistakes of the previous water contractor. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any comments or questions. After a brief discussion, the city council agreed that the residents who had previously had issues with water estimations should not be held responsible for the mistakes of the previous water contractor.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to forgive higher water bills from estimations due to previous water contractor causing non-functioning water meters.

Motion made by Alisa Griffs, seconded by Ken Baker and carried unanimously.

12. Discuss/Consider accepting Darrel Seidel for the vacant city council position:

Mayor Bryan Wilkins stated that there was an open position on city council and that the city had received a request from Darrell Seidel to be placed on the city council. Mayor Wilkins

asked Darrell if he would like to address the council. Darrell stated that he has been a business owner for 45 years and that he is a licensed home inspector in Texas. He stated that he would like an opportunity to serve the city and enhance the future growth. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any questions or comments. After a brief discussion, the city council decided to appoint Mr. Seidel as a new council member filling the current vacancy.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to accept Darrell Seidel as a new city council member filling the current vacancy.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Steve Kroll and carried unanimously.

13. Discuss/Consider a resolution for the filing of Public Information Requests:

Mayor Wilkins discussed with the city council the need to set a policy regarding the request of Public Information from the city and to accept a resolution stating such. Mayor Wilkins read the proposed resolution to the city council which stated that the city could only accept requests through e-mail, regular mail and by hand delivery to the city secretary. Mayor Wilkins asked the city council if they had any question or comments regarding the resolution. After a brief discussion, the city council accepted the resolution establishing the procedures for filing of public information act requests.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to accept the resolution.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Steve Kroll and carried unanimously.

14. Discuss/Consider adopting an ordinance to place speed humps on Second St.

Mayor Wilkins discussed the need to place speed humps on second street. Mayor Wilkins discussed having observed on many occasions people speeding on second street and placing the public in danger. Mayor Wilkins then proposed the city council adopt an ordinance to place speed humps on Second St. Mayor Wilkins read the proposed ordinance and asked city council if they had any questions or comments. Council member Ken Baker noted that he had also observed on many occasions people speeding down second street. After a brief discussion, the city council accepted the ordinance to place speed humps on Second St.

Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to adopt an ordinance to place speed humps on Second St.

Motion made by Ken Baker, seconded by Alisa Griffis and carried unanimously.

Mayors Report:

None

Adjournment:

Mayor Bryan Wilkins stated that the next city council meeting will be held on August 9, 2022 @ 6:00 pm at city hall. Mayor Wilkins moves for motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 pm. Motion made by Alisa Griffis, seconded by Steve Kroll and carried unanimously

Minutes passed and approved this _____ day of _____, 2022.

Attest: _____

Karen Kroll
City Secretary